

the ALMAGEST

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LSU SHREVEPORT

Thursday
April 5, 2007

Hayes, Goad win SGA elections

by Jeremiah Raab

The election is over, and the results are in.

After two weeks of heavy campaigning, including large banners across campus and the Shreveport Captains mascot, Joseph Hayes and Nicole Goad successfully took the top spots in the SGA as a result of last week's elections. Hayes beat out incumbent president Denitra Dennis, and Goad bested current SGA secretary Ebonee Rhodes for the positions.

The differences between the campaigns were obvious, as Hayes and Goad signs seemed to be everywhere, even as accusations of sign-stealing were made early on. One of the larger banners that stood in front of the bookstore read, "Someone stole our signs, so we made a bigger one."

Both Hayes and Goad credit their mass campaigning as the tipping point of the election.

"We had a bigger presence on campus," said Hayes. "We went out and tried to get students involved and they saw our efforts and realized that we're willing to do whatever it takes to get the



MIKE SCHWALKE

The students have been heard, and what they want is a new vice president and president for LSUS. Nicole Goad and Joseph Hayes have been voted as the new officials to represent the university.

will of the students done."

Goad agreed and credited their "innovative campaigning" as what carried them over the top.

Hayes and Goad first plan to take on the current attendance policy. The policy states that if students miss a certain number of classes in a semester, they can be dropped from the class and receive an F. Both Hayes and Goad claim that the policy is not fair to paying students and after getting more infor-

mation on the subject, they will try to get it changed. Hayes also claimed he would work on getting MySpace and Facebook unblocked, as they are heavily visited Web sites on campus.

Most of all, Hayes said students can expect him "not to back down" from problems, as well as more community involvement in order to bring students to LSUS.

According to Goad, students will have a more "open" SGA that will "wel-

come student's ideas."

"We're not going to sit in ivory towers," said Goad.

In the end, there were 608 votes for president and 605 votes for vice president, which averages out to approximately 16 percent of the student body voting. It was not the highest turnout compared to previous elections, but it was not the lowest either. According to Dr. Gloria Raines, vice chancellor for student affairs, voter turnout is hard to predict.

"Turnout varies from year to year. This year's turnout was better than previous years but worse than some," she said.

When compared to average state elections, Raines added, 16 percent is a good number to see.

Raines said she was also "pleased to see that we had a good race for president and vice president."

In the other races, Mayte Pino ran unopposed for SGA secretary and received over 500 votes. Ben Escude ran unopposed for College of Business senator and Ieshia Davenport ran unopposed for College of Education senator.

Brandon Johnson and Angel Arnold beat out incumbent Badreka Harper for the two College of Liberal Arts senator seats, and Serena Green and Travis Richardson won the College of Sciences senator seats over Justin Brown, Johnathan Gandy and Jonette Green.

Senators at Large who were voted in are Daniel Antle, Matthew Baker, Kathryn D'Anna, Jeremy Hampton, T'Anita King, Rachelle Walden, Titus Washington, Cheradee Williams and Stephen Williams.

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Big winners

LSUS debate team does well

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Sports

Baseball team sweeps SHC

the **Almagest**

Volume 50, Issue 8

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"Almagest" is an Arabic word meaning "great" or "majestic." It is also the title of a book written by the ancient astronomer Ptolemy who is pictured on the front page of our paper.

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Editorial Policy

The information presented in this publication by no means reflects the opinions of the administration or staff of LSUS. *The Almagest* seeks to provide information for the LSUS campus and community; to involve students, faculty and staff; and to provide a public forum for ideas as guaranteed in the First Amendment of the Constitution. Comments and complaints are welcome and should be addressed to Mike Schwalke, Editor-in-Chief. They must be accompanied by your full name and e-mail address.

Letters Policy

Letters to the editor are encouraged. However, the staff reserves the right to edit letters for clarity, length, and content. Any letter submitted by a club or organization must be signed by all members of the group or by the group's president. Letters should be e-mailed or submitted to the Almagest office, BH 344, by 5 p.m. on the Friday preceding the Thursday publication date. Please type the letter and include your classification and major. *The Almagest* reserves the right not to publish submitted materials. Obscene, libelous and anonymous letters will not be printed.

EDITORIAL COMMENTS

In response to the editorial printed in the March 1 issue of the Almagest, I have a few points of clarification as well as some information that may help shed light on where we are in the development of our university's new mascot.

The statement printed, "the naming of the mascot is coming along quite nicely," is an incorrect quote to say the least. What I stated at the SGA meeting was that "the development of our mascot was coming along quite nicely." This fact remains true: We are exactly where we need to be in the development process.

There has not been any recent discussion

on the naming of the mascot. The mascot committee decided at the beginning of the fall 2006 semester that the naming of the mascot would be one of the final phases of development only to take place *after* the costume arrives. As anticipated, the students of LSUS will have the pleasure of naming the mascot.

**Dennis**

Denitra N. Dennis
SGA President

I am overjoyed that something I wrote in *The Almagest* finally elicited a response from a student, and a student leader no less. I took Denitra Dennis to task in the March 1 editorial, but I hope the gist of my editorial had some resonance: The reason the mascot is unnamed and unsuited is because of lack of student involvement, awareness and attention to things happening on campus.

However, I still differ with Dennis' opinion that anything involving the mascot is coming along at all. It is still my position that ever since the mascot was first announced four semesters ago the whole process has been stagnant at best. If the mascot is still in

development, then why did the SGA announce the mascot? Moreover, why has the SGA set deadlines which have repeatedly lapsed?

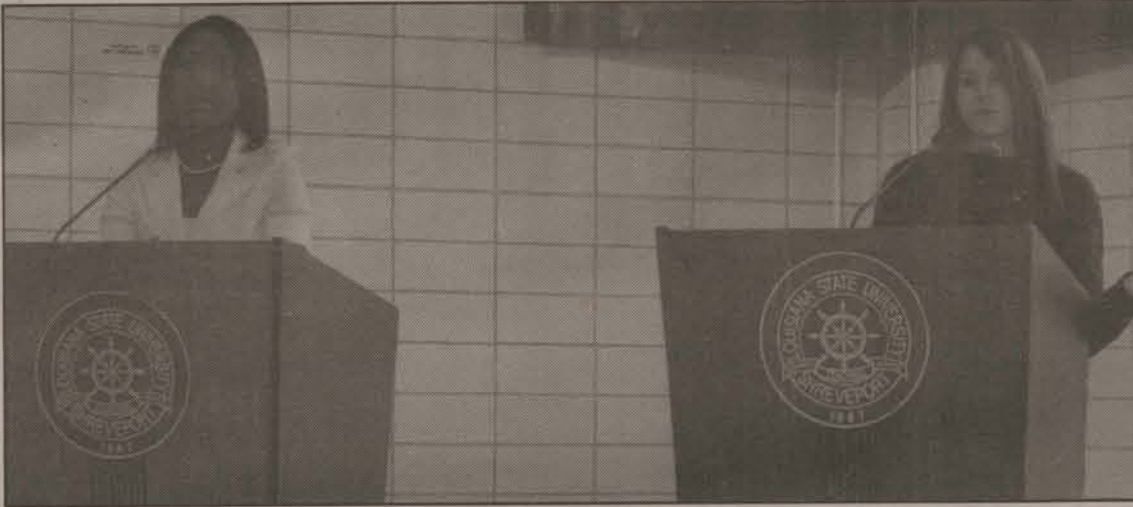
Because of the many failed attempts to name that pelican, I took the initiative and named the pelican "Luscious" (as in L-S-U-S). Still, students had yet one more chance to name that pelican during the SGA elections last week. Hopefully, this new attempt to garner names for our hypothetical mascot will stick.

Mike Schwalke
Editor-in-Chief

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CAMPUS NEWS



PHOTOS BY RODRIGO MONDRAGON

Ebony Rhodes (left) and Nicole Goad debate during a recent Common Hour on who is the better candidate for SGA vice president. Goad won the election.

SGA ELECTION WINNERS

President: Joseph Hayes

Vice president: Nicole Goad

Secretary: Mayte Pino

College of Business senator:

Ben Escude

College of Education senator:

Ieshia Davenport

College of Liberal Arts senators:

Brandon Johnson and Angel Arnold

College of Sciences senators:

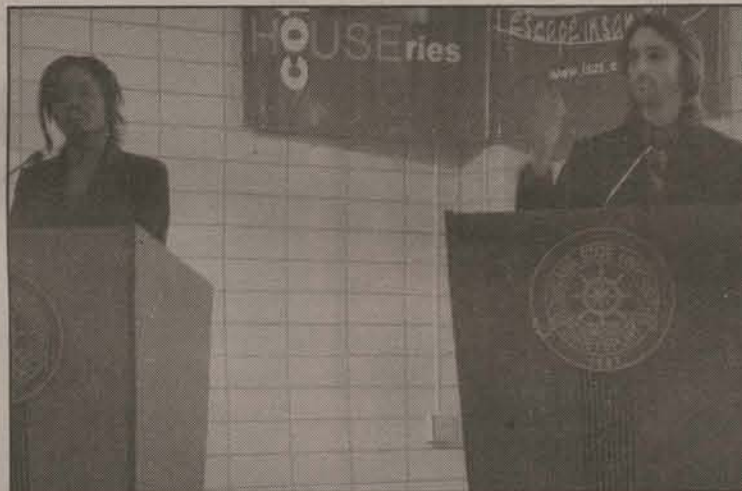
Serena Green and Travis Richardson

Senators at Large:

Daniel Antle, Mathew Baker, Kathryn D'Anna, Jeremy Hampton, T'Anita King, Rachelle Walden, Titus Washington, Cheradee Williams and Stephen Williams

Election results verified by Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs Gloria Raines.

Denitra Dennis (left) and Joseph Hayes debate over being the SGA president. Hayes won the election.



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**Monjuni's at Portico
is now hiring
college-aged servers**

FACULTY SENATE UPDATE

- The Standing Committee of Instruction and Professional Development will be performing a feasibility study to decide whether to cancel Wednesday night classes before Thanksgiving break beginning in 2009.
- Discussion of tuition deferments for faculty and their dependents has been moved to April.
- The 40th anniversary gala celebration will be the week of Sept. 24, and astronaut Kathy Sullivan will speak.

SGA UPDATE

Results from March 13 meeting:

- A disclaimer was added to the SGA Facebook group following a complaint by Joseph Hayes.
- The presidential veto of the ISISI Act, which would have provided pizza at SGA meetings, was accepted without discussion.
- Claiming the SGA Constitution is outdated, the position of SGA secretary is, in fact, an elected position.

Results from March 29 meeting:

- The Internal Affairs Committee received the task of updating the SGA Constitution for next year.
- Student e-mail forwarding is ready to go using IMAP.
- Failure to meet quorum resulted in meeting being adjourned early.

STAFF SENATE UPDATE

- At the time of the meeting, there were no nominations for open seats in the senate. The deadline was March 23.
- John Irvin, professional speaker, will be at LSUS on April 17 to speak with the staff and faculty.
- Adnan Samhan, director of accounting services, was voted staff senate president starting in May.

LSUS changing 'I' policy

by Devin White

The "incomplete" grade policy has been revised by the Faculty Senate this semester, standardizing the process for students to make up uncompleted work.

The new policy gives students 60 days from the end of the semester when the "I" grade was given to make up the work. Before, students' deadline to get the "I" grade removed was the next regular semester's deadline to add a course for credit. Basically, students had until the first week of the next semester to make up the work.

Under the old policy, students who received an "I" grade in the spring had all summer to complete their work, whereas students who took an "I" grade at the end of the fall semester were limited to weeks rather than months.

"The (old) policy read like IRS code," said Dr. Beverly Burden, associate professor of biology and member of the faculty senate. "The policy was not quite fair for a student taking 'I' grades at the end of the fall semester, for they only had until the end of January to make up the work."

"I think the new policy is better because it eliminates confusion from semester to semester," Cheradee Williams, sophomore political science major said. "It's fairer to students, allowing them more time to focus on their current classes as well as their incomplete grade."

According to the faculty senate, extensions are still possible for students who need them. The new policy takes effect this semester.

LSU IN SHREVEPORT
WASHINGTON
SEMESTER



LSU IN SHREVEPORT 24th Annual Mini- "Washington Semester"

MAY 14-30, 2007

- ▶ Least expensive Washington Semester in the nation
- ▶ Six hours of academic credit in political science or American Studies, including internships
- ▶ Open to all students, regardless of major, year in school, or school of normal attendance
- ▶ No out-of-state tuition; stay in hotel in downtown DC

There are two large fixed costs: triple occupancy hotel room (approximately \$704), and tuition fees (\$717). Transportation to and from DC as well as meals, are up to participants to arrange as well as some minor expenses.

DEADLINES:

\$400 deposit due **DECEMBER 1, 2006**. This guarantees a slot on the "Washington Semester" and applies to your hotel/tuition fee. It is non-refundable. Balance for hotel/tuition is due **MARCH 16, 2007**

For further information:

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Awards Galore



The LSUS Debate Team finished fifth overall in the International Public Debate Association National Convention and Tournament at LSUS last weekend. Team captain Keith Milstead won his third national championship award of the year and his fifth overall. This is the second time in three years that Milstead has been IPDA season and tournament champion, a feat never before accomplished by any IPDA debater. This was his last national competition in his eight-year debate career. From left, Nicole Goad, coach Jorgi Jarzabek, Preston Langley, Joseph Hayes and Milstead.

MIKE SCHWALKE



RODRIGO MONDRAGON

LSUS' Tassels Without Hassels program was recently offered for all students graduating in May. The program makes it easy for graduating seniors to register for commencement. Shown above is one student getting her graduating portrait taken.

Kenna Franklin's SOCL 255 class on marriage and the family recently held a mock wedding that featured several different cultures. Everyone in the class participated in the wedding, which was held in the University Center Ballroom. The bride and groom were Codi Carpenter and Brandon Daniels shown on the right. Below is a picture of the wedding party.

PHOTOS BY
RODRIGO MONDRAGON



SPORTS

Pilots baseball keeps winning

by Chrissy Chiri

The LSUS Pilots baseball team completed a three-game sweep of conference opponents Spring Hill College last week. The sweep put the Pilots in second place in the Gulf Coast Atlantic Conference, just behind the Belhaven Blazers. LSUS (24-8, 13-5) has played three fewer games than Belhaven in conference but will even things up this weekend as the Blazers have the weekend off.

All three Pilots' pitchers got wins last weekend against the Badgers (11-25, 4-14). Senior Matt Clayman (5-0), junior Juan Leon (7-1) and senior Kevin Jewell (3-3) all helped out their team by giving stellar performances off the mound. They allowed only 10 runs combined.

"The coaches did a good job preparing us for the weekend."

David McGhee
LSUS baseball

The Pilot offense was working with some hot bats as the Pilots outscored the Badgers 25-10. In game two of the series, senior right fielder Colin Moro was a double shy of the cycle as he hit a two-run homer, singled and tripled. Along with having five RBIs in the series, he also threw two men out at home plate from right field on two different plays.

Senior third baseman



RODRIGO MONDRAGON

Senior center fielder Chris Frye rounds first base against Spring Hill College last weekend. The Pilots won all three games against the Blazers.

Bryan Cooksey went 4-10 throughout the three games and also went errorless through numerous plays. He is hitting .363 on the year. Freshman second baseman Andrew Blubaugh, who played all weekend in place of an injured Chase Jennings, stepped up in a big way by going 5-7 in the series, including two RBIs.

Senior left fielder David McGhee hit a solid .500 against the Badgers. He has been a consistent leadoff hitter by hitting .304.

He said the reason for the three wins against Spring Hill was due to the hard work they put into practice.

"The coaches did a good job preparing us for the weekend," McGhee said.

The Pilots are looking forward to playing the struggling Loyola Wolfpack

(10-24, 5-23) this weekend. LSUS needs to sweep Loyola, who has lost five in a row, in order to tie Belhaven for first place.

"I think there's a good chance of us sweeping if they (the pitchers) come out and perform like they did last weekend," McGhee said. "Any time we score three to five runs we have a good chance of winning because of how good our conference starters are."

The winner of the regular season GCAC will host the Region XIII tournament. The winner will also receive an automatic berth to the tourney.

The winner of the regional tournament will advance to the super regional tourney, and the winner of that will go on to the NAIA World Series.

LSUS loses in first round of tournament

by Chrissy Chiri

After making their third straight appearance in the NAIA national tournament this year, the LSUS men's basketball team was knocked out in the first round. Azusa Pacific University (28-6) rallied in the last 13 minutes of the game to beat the Pilots (25-8) and end their season by a score of 61-56.

The Pilots were seeded No. 23 in the tournament, and Azusa was No. 10.

With 20 seconds left in the game, the Pilots were down only one. Senior point guard Freddy Hughes was fouled and at the free throw line. The 92 percent free throw shooter had a one-and-one, but missed the first shot and Azusa got the rebound.

"Unfortunately even the great shooters miss once in a while," LSUS head coach Chad McDowell said.

The Pilots, who had been scoring at least 82 points in their last five games, scored only 25 points in the first half but so did Azusa.

"There is no question we believed heading into this game we could win," McDowell said.

"We led and controlled the entire game, only to see our lead vanish in the final minute."

Last season the Pilots were knocked out of the NAIA national tourney in the first round, but the year before that they made it to the Sweet 16.

GCAC 2007 Baseball Standings

Team	Record	Streak
Belhaven	16-5	Won 12
LSUS	13-5	Won three
Mobile	9-9	Lost two
William Carey	10-11	Won two
Loyola	5-13	Lost five
Spring Hill	4-14	Lost 11

ENTERTAINMENT

UPCOMING LSUS MOVIE NIGHT SCHEDULE

April 20 – Charlotte's Web

April 26 – Casino Royale

May 3 – Pursuit of Happyness

UPCOMING LSUS CONCERT SCHEDULE

April 12 – Student artists

ProCuts on Jewella

\$10.95 haircut

\$2 student discount*

*\$2 student discount with ID.

May be used with any service.

Ferrell saves 'Blades' film

by **Chris Gray**

"Blades of Glory" is a funny story of two figure skaters who were once enemies but are forced to become friends. The two have to compete in a pair's competition dominated by a brother and sister duo who have a quasi-incestuous relationship.

Jon Heder ("Napoleon Dynamite"), Will Ferrell ("Old School") and Craig T. Nelson (TV's "Coach") star in this comedic romp.

I have never been a fan of Heder. In "Napoleon Dynamite" I was hoping a bully would come along and stuff him in a trash can and then kick it down a hill, and his performance in this film had the same effect on me. This guy cannot act his way out of a wet paper sack. He talks like a retarded surfer boy and acts like Napoleon Dynamite in any film he is in, which is

a testament to his lameness.

Even though I do not like Ferrell, he is like a cancerous tumor: He grows on you. The more of his films I watch, the more I enjoy him, and I am quickly becoming a fan.

He saved this film from going counter-clockwise down the crapper. The timing of his jokes was perfect, and he could look at a co-star and say something with a straight face that no normal person could say without bursting out laughing. Ferrell is definitely one of the comedic wonders of our time.

Nelson gave it his all, but sadly it was not enough to make me laugh. His ability to be funny has dramatically declined since his days as Coach Hayden Fox. Though his comedy was not on the former level, his acting ability still was. He was able to deliver lines with the finesse

of a seasoned veteran. He was still able to draw me into a scene with his serious acting. Hopefully Nelson will make it back to the top of his game, but I doubt it.

The directors Josh Gordon and Will Speck ("Culture") did a good job of making this film humorous, but they did not use any special camera techniques.

Their camera angles were generic and their cinematography was in no way unique. None of the camera work made a scene funnier or accentuated the scene in any way.

The directors need to take a step back and think about their next move in the industry. They may want to improve on their skills or become the guys who say, "Would you like to buy a large for a quarter more?"

"Blades of Glory" will skate over your face, and you will be scarred for life.

LSUS hosting Tyler Read concert

by **Brittany Harness**

Tyler Read, music's newest success story, are homeward bound and are celebrating their signing onto major record label Immortal Records here at LSUS.

As they prepare to embark on a series of stops throughout Arkansas, Mississippi, Texas and Oklahoma, the boys' return to their hometown will mark a milestone in their flourishing careers.

Band members Josh Johnson, Jordan Johnson, Brent Skinner, Chris Rimmer and

Chris McPeters arrive tonight, along with their opening act, Meriwether.

Kim Thornton, assistant director for Student Leadership and Involvement, said to "expect a large crowd since it's been over a year since the band has been home." She also said "everyone on campus is buzzing about it."

Doors will open at 7 p.m., and the concert will start at 8 p.m. The opening act is expected to play for approximately 45 minutes, and soon thereafter Tyler Read will hit the stage and play a 75-minute set sure to please the

crowd.

There is a good likelihood that those who attend will have the opportunity to meet the band, as it is common for the band to stay and talk to fans during the intermission and after the concert.

If you have not purchased your tickets for the event, you still can. Tickets are on sale in the UC, for \$2 for all LSUS students with valid IDs and \$10 for the general public. If you wait to purchase your tickets at the event, expect to pay \$10 even if you are a student.

FUN & GAMES

The English Club's

2007 Fiction & Poetry contest

is underway at LSUS.

\$100, \$50 and \$25 are prizes for

the top three entries

in each category.

The deadline is April 19.

Pick up entry packets in BH 258.

Sudoku Puzzle

8	3				7			4
		5	1	3		9		
4			5				7	3
	6		3			8	2	
	5	3			9	7		
2				6	5			9
		1	4			2	6	
		8		7	6			1
7	4			1			9	

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

LSUS Sports Schedule

Friday, April 6

6:30 p.m.

Loyola University at LSUS*

(baseball)

Saturday, April 7

1 p.m.

Loyola University at LSUS*

(baseball double header)

Wednesday, April 11

6:30 p.m.

LSUS at

University of Louisiana-Monroe

(baseball)

Friday, April 13

6:30 p.m.

William Carey College

at LSUS*

(baseball)

Saturday, April 14

1 p.m.

William Carey College

at LSUS*

(baseball double-header)

Tuesday, April 17

4 p.m.

LSUS at

Texas Wesleyan University

(baseball double-header)

Friday, April 20

6 p.m.

LSUS at

Belhaven College*

(baseball)

* denotes conference game

Bert Stroud, the Anthropologist

By: Mike Schwalke and Diego Tripodi

